

REMARKS

Claims 6-15 are pending. Claims 7, 12, 14 and 15 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 6 is amended. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional/continuation applications to the cancelled subject matter. No new matter has been added.

Interview Summary

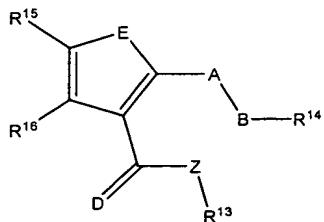
Applicants thank Examiner Nyeemah Grazier for her graciousness extended during the telephonic interview on October 9, 2006. The rejection under 35 USC§ 102 (b) as it applies to Claims 6 and 8 was discussed. Applicants pointed out to the Examiner that the compounds and compositions of claims 6 and 8, respectively, are thiophene-2-sulfonamides, whereas the compounds disclosed in the cited references by Wu *et al.* *J. Med. Chem.* 1999, 42, 4485-99 and WO98/13366 are thiophene-3-sulfonamides. The Examiner suggested filing an RCE. As discussed in the interview, Applicants understand that independent claims 6 and 11 and claims dependent thereon will be examined in the instant case.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

1. J. Med. Chem. 1999, 42, 4485-99

Claims 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Wu *et al.*, *J. Med. Chem.* 1999, 42, 4485-99. The Office Action alleges that the reference anticipates claims 6 and 8 because R¹³ and R¹⁴ are aryl. The Office Action alleges that the definition of "aryl" in the specification encompasses isoxazolyl.

As discussed in the previous response, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is directed to **thiophene-2-sulfonamides** of Formula II:



(II)

where the substituents are as defined therein. The compounds disclosed in Wu *et al.* are **3-isoxazolylsulfamoyl-2-thiophenecarboxamides**. Thus, the compounds of instant claims 6 and 8 contain a sulfonamide group at position 2, whereas the compounds disclosed in Wu *et al.* contain sulfonamide group at 3 position. The 3-sulfonamide compounds disclosed in the Wu *et al.* are not within the scope of the thiophene-2-sulfonamides claimed in instant claim 6.

Therefore, Wu *et al.* does not anticipate claim 6 and claims dependent thereon. Applicants request reconsideration and removal of the rejection.

2. WO 98/13366

Claims 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 98/13366. The Office Action maintains that disclosure of N-(4-chloro-3-methyl-5-isoxazolyl)-2-(3-hydroxy-2,4,6-trimethylphenylaminocarbonyl)thiophene-3-sulfonamide and N-(4-chloro-3-methyl-5-isoxazolyl)-2-(3-pyrrolidinyl-2,4,6-trimethylphenylaminocarbonyl)thiophene-3-sulfonamide anticipates claims 6 and 8.

Again, as discussed in the previous response and as discussed above, claims 6 and 8 are directed to **thiophene-2-sulfonamides** of Formula II. The claims does not encompass thiophene-3-sulfonamides disclosed in WO 98/13366. These compounds are not within the scope of instant claims 6 and 8. Therefore, disclosure of WO 98/13366 does not anticipate claim 6 and claims dependent thereon. Applicants request reconsideration and removal of the rejection.

3. WO 02/28353

Claims 6, 8, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 02/28353. The Office Action alleges that disclosure of the compound N-(4-chlorophenyl-2-[phenylsulfonyl]amino)-3-thiophenecarboxamide anticipates the instant claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 does not encompass the cited compound. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

DOUBLE PATENTING

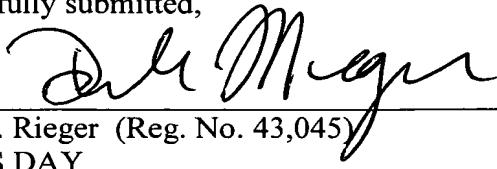
Claims 11 and 13 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over copending Application No. 10/924,180. Applicants hereby request that the rejection be held in abeyance until an indication of patentable subject matter is given, at which point a need for Terminal Disclaimer may be evaluated.

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Response and Amendment
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In view of the above, allowance of the application is respectfully requested. Please apply any charges or any credits to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 10, 2006


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